

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Doug Garman, Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope observed most of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order and attendees pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Pastor Craig Roberts, Landmark Church in Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the minutes from December 19 and 21. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kay Shoemaker, RCD Treasurer, presented for signatures the annual report for Kansas Department of Commerce. Shoemaker also announced that there would be an RCD meeting January 11, 2023 at the Bel-Villa at 6:30 pm for meal and 7:00 pm for meeting.

Arlene Clayton, concerned citizen, visited with the commissioners regarding the needed repairs to the front steps and back sidewalk. Clayton would gladly assist to get the grants written and find contractors to repair these areas.

Clerk Marsicek presented a Disaster Relief application from Glen Hardesty because his home was destroyed by a fire.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the application and issue a rebate on the loss. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Barry Childs, concerned citizen, suggested that Republic County develop a grant program to support new housing in Republic County and future growth. Commissioner Garman suggested that Childs visit with Jenny Russell, RCED, to develop a plan of action.

Sheriff David Cox presented a yearend report from his departments.

- Cox will be hiring a part-time and full-time jailer before the end of January.
- Digi-ticket results include 451 citations and 799 warnings. Approximately 70% of the citations were for speeding.
- The facility has held 226 inmates during 2022.
- The portable visitation booth should be operational by the end of this week.

Justin Ferrell, County Attorney, explained his disappointment with the wage increases to department heads and elected officials.

The commissioners will review a wage study for county attorneys and will get back to Ferrell.

Ken Robbins presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge and turbine project information:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- The landfill was closed on January 3, 2023.

- Robbins presented for signatures a utility agreement between Republic County and Brad Hanson to construct and operate an underground waterline under Valley Rd west of 160 Rd.
- Robbins announced that Jewell recycling center will no longer accept recycling from Republic County. Robbins will research other resources for Republic County recycling.

Commissioner Garman notified Robbins that a culvert west of Courtland on Queen Road needs repaired.

- The scraper is still out of service.
- There are openings for 5 positions at road and bridge.

Commissioners reviewed a wage study presented from the listing of 2022 wages of elected officials in Kansas.

Clerk Marsicek will condense the information to county attorney positions, population and number of employees in each office, then report back to the commissioners next Monday.

Commissioner Garman requested an updated financial list from Treasurer Cindy Coons regarding interest rates and maturity dates.

Commissioner Splichal reported that he attended the North Central Regional Juvenile Board on December 21.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 9, 2023 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Doug Garman, Chairperson

Melvin Jeardoe, Member

Edwin Splichal, Member